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Kernan Awards Grant for Town of Morocco to Purchase Recycled Playground Equipment

INDIANAPOLIS — Residents of Morocco will soon see the importance of recycling plastic, steel and aluminum products in a very concrete way.

The town of Morocco, located in Newton County, has been awarded a \$5,000 Recycled Product Purchasing Grant by the Indiana Department of Commerce's office of Energy Policy. Lt. Governor Joe Kernan announced today that the town will use the grant to buy recycled-content playground equipment as part of the its Recher Park Improvement Project.

"We encourage all local government entities to take advantage of these grants," said Kernan. "With these funds, the town of Morocco will be able to contribute to the statewide recycling effort."

The recycled-content playground equipment, a play-gym made of various recycled materials including steel, plastic and aluminum, will be located at Morocco's community park. These kinds of products divert material from landfills, require little to no maintenance, withstand weather and are not treated with harmful chemicals. The town is hopeful that the recycled-content equipment will encourage residents to close the recycling loop by buying recycled.

Recycled Product Purchasing Grants promote the purchase of recycled content products in Indiana. The grants are available for trial or demonstration projects by local government entities throughout the state, including public schools, solid waste management districts and county, city or town governments. Grants of up to \$5,000 are available per applicant, not to exceed 50 percent of eligible project costs.

The Indiana Recycling Energy Development Board, which meets quarterly, reviews grant proposals and determines awards. Housed in Commerce's Community Development division, the office of Energy Policy administers the program. For more information on recycling programs, please contact Tiffany Sorge at 317.232.8940 or visit the Web site at www.CommerceRecycles.in.gov.

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